(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) According to the Association of Indian Universities (AIU), the Association has not accorded equivalence to the degrees awarded by any accredited foreign university, for prgorammes offered in India, either partly or fully in collaboration with any academic institution. The Association, however, grants equivalence to the degrees awarded by the accredited foreign university(ies), for the full time programmes offered on the Campus of the country of its origin, provided the eligibility requirements and duration of the programme remain the same as that of Indian Universities. The recognition of foreign medical degrees is the subject matter of the Medical Council of India.

Assistance for running girls hostels

32. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL ARTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether assistance was given to voluntary organizations for running girls hostels under the scheme of "strengthening boarding and hostel facilities for girls" by Government;

(b) if so, the details of the assistance provided during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether grants for the year 2005-06 and 2006-07 have been released;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken/being taken on the proposals pending from the voluntary organizations already running such hostels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD.ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Grants released under the "Scheme for Strengthening of Boarding and Hostel facilities for Girl Students of Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools" during the last three years are as under:—

2003-04	—	Rs. 5,91,89,000/-
2004-05	—	Rs. 3,72,36,000/-
2005-06	—	Rs. 3,89,90,000/-

Grants under this scheme are released directly to the voluntary organizations and no State-wise allocation is made.

(c) to (e) Because of some problems encountered in its effective implementation, it has been decided not to release any grant pertaining to the years 2005-06 and 2006-07, pending evaluation of the scheme. At present, no new applications pertaining to the years 2005-06 and 2006-07 are being considered under the scheme.

DPEP to curtail drop-outs

33. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the District Primary Education Programme (DPEP), it was estimated to curtail the drop-out rates to below eight per cent by 2004-05;

(b) to what extent the Mid-day Meal Programme has helped achieve the drop-out reduction targets; and

(c) whether apart from budgetary support and inflows from Education Cess, funds for DPEP including Mid-day Meal Scheme are being secured from overseas donors as grants and credits and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) The District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) is currently operational in 8 districts of Orissa and 9 districts of Rajasthan. The Department for International Development of the United Kingdom has provided a grant of approximately Rs. 300 crore from 2001 to 2008 for the DPEP programme